

REMARKS

Claim 3-18 are pending in the application.

Claims 3-18 were previously allowed.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 9 and 13 have been amended, as set forth herein.

Claim 12 has been canceled, without prejudice.

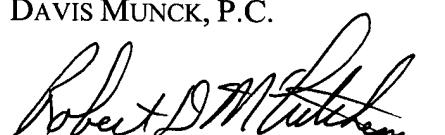
Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a request for continued examination. Applicant has amended the claims, as set forth above.

Applicant respectfully submits that the currently pending Claims 311, and 13-18 are allowable over the art of record.

Should it facilitate allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payment that may be due or credit any overpayment to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,
DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: 2/17/2004



Robert D. McCutcheon
Registration No. 38,717

P.O. Box 802432
Dallas, Texas 75380
Tel.: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: rmccutcheon@davismunck.com